chapter 1

Summary

The protagonist Ayumu was secretly dating her superior at her company until he broke up with her. Though deeply hurt she could not outwardly express it. Not long after she began living with her well liked co worker Yachi, at her grandfather's house. While living with the friendly Yachi kun Ayumu starts to change

Kitto Aishite

SHIMADU N DA.

RAWS	[illegible]	TRANSLATION	[illegible]
CLEANING	[illegible]	REDRAWING	[illegible]
PROOFREAD	[illegible]	QUALITY CHECK	[illegible]

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"My co-worker Yachi-kun is good at his job."

"He's handsome, well-liked by everyone and has good manners. "

"He's definitely very popular. "

Kitto Aishite Shimaunda

Kazui Kazumi
Kazui Kazumi Presents

Their relationship and the reason they're together is a secret.
His bed hair and yawns, her tears and natural face; they won't show it to anyone else.
That's because the two of them will have a fresh start from now on...
First Night: AYUMU
Kitto Aishite
Shimaunda
I'm home!
Welcome back!
Summary
"An accomplished beauty." That is Ayumu's reputation at the company. However, her true personality is completely different...? Just when she is going through a big heartbreak, the one who extends his hand to her is her "cool and efficient" co-worker, Yachi. When the two of them, who have never had much contact before, start growing closer because of a certain situation, an unexpected miracle occurs!?
Kazui Kazumi
Kazui Kazumi Presents

My co-worker Yachi-kun is...
YACHI-KUN.
...
FUJITA!!
WHY ARE YOU CARRYING SOMETHING SO HEAVY?
I'LL CARRY IT FOR YOU
I'M FINE.
SORRY, BUT I'M IN A HURRY.
Yachi, you can actually talk to Fujita, huh?
Don't you think she's hard to approach?
She's a beauty, but she never smiles.

Everyone likes my co-worker Yachi.
...
HARD TO APPROACH? FUJITA?
YACHI, YOU'RE TOO NICE...
I'VE NEVER REALLY NOTICED.
We're peers after all.
I WONDER HOW ELSE I SHOULD HAVE SAID IT...
I REFUSED BECAUSE IT'S NOT ANYTHING HE HAS TO TROUBLE HIMSELF OVER, AND I REALLY AM IN A HURRY...
INTERACTING WITH PEOPLE.
IS HARD

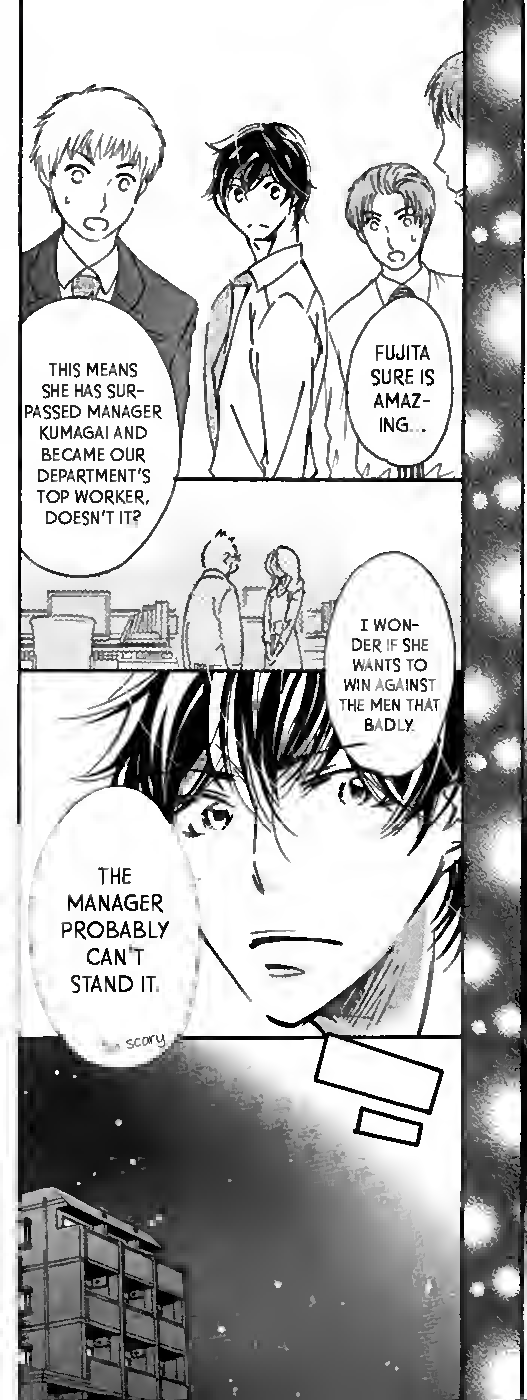
YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL ON EXTERNAL LINE 2 FROM N CORPO-RATION
TELL THEM I'LL CALL BACK.
MANGER KUMAGAI
Kuma
Let's break up.
MANAGER KUMAGAI, EXTERNAL LINE 1...
I'LL CALL THEM BACK.

POP
Please tell me the reason.
Please tell me
Are you happy you won against me?
POP
FUJITA-KUN
DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE RIGHT NOW?
...
WHAT DOES HE MEAN?
WON...?

"REMOVE KUMAGAI FROM THE PROJECT."
"WE'RE FINE WITH HAVING FUJITA ONLY" THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID
chatter-
CAN YOU DO IT?
AH, YES CHIEF!!
IT'S ABOUT THE PROJECT YOU AND KUMAGAI-KUN WERE WORKING ON FOR TOKUYAMA INDUSTRIES
THEY CONTACTED US

"Are you happy you won against me?"

DON'T OPPOSE THEM
THEY'RE THIS DEPARTMENT'S BIGGEST CLIENTS
I DON'T HAVE THE CONFIDENCE
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN MANAGER KUMAGAI'S ASSISTANT UP UNTIL NOW
THEY SAID IT'S A WASTE OF LABOR
BUT HE CURRENTLY ONLY APPROVES CHECKS, DOES HE NOT?

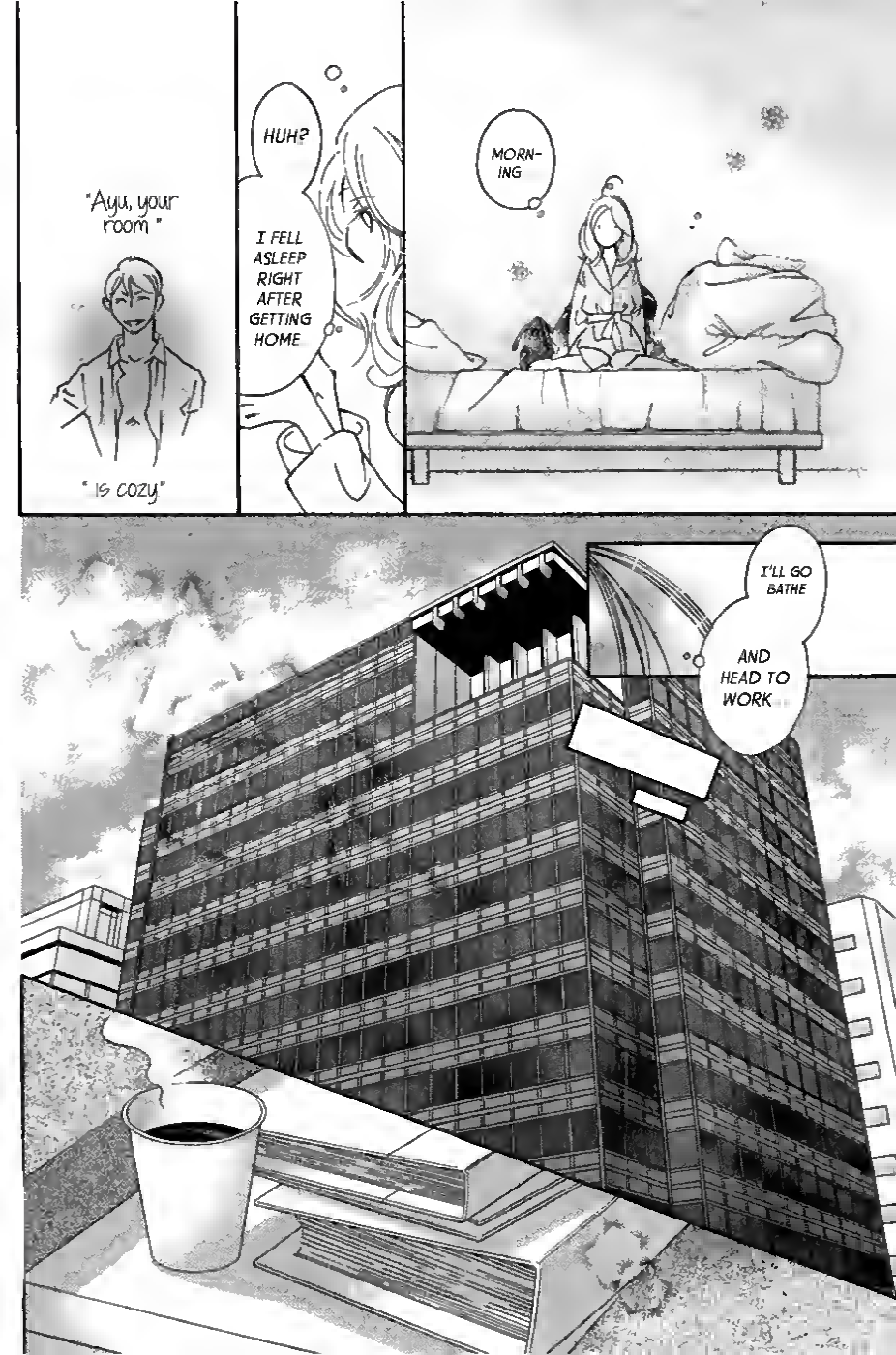

THIS MEANS SHE HAS SURPASSED MANAGER KUMAGAI AND BECAME OUR DEPARTMENT'S TOP WORKER, DOESN'T IT?
FUJITA SURE IS AMAZING...
I WONDER IF SHE WANTS TO WIN AGAINST THE MEN THAT BADLY.
THE MANAGER PROBABLY CAN'T STAND IT.
so scary

MOREOVER, KUMAGAI-KUN HAS ALREADY ACKNOWLEDGED THIS MATTER.

"Let's break up."

"Ayu"

"...it's all thanks to your support, Kumagai-san."
"It's okay."
"Believe in yourself"
"Why don't you try working more?"
"You've got good intuition when it comes to business."
"I want you to try."
"You can do it, Ayu."
After getting the position of sales assistant, I started working under Kumagai-san
As I started to get better and better at work, Kumagai-san was happy for me


"Ayu, your room"
"is cozy"
HUH?
I FELL ASLEEP RIGHT AFTER GETTING HOME
MORN-ING
I'LL GO BATHE
AND HEAD TO WORK

BUT THOSE FINAL CHECKS WERE OF HUGE HELP.
IT'S TRUE THAT KUMAGAI-SAN'S JOB IS JUST TO MAKE THE FINAL APPROVAL CHECKS
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE DAZED.
I HAVE TO THINK.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I HAVE TO THINK.
YOU'RE HERE SO EARLY!!
FUJITA.
I HAVE TO PULL THROUGH AS MUCH AS I CAN FOR NOW...
"Ayu"
NOT ONLY DID I LOSE THAT SUPPORT, BUT I ALSO DON'T HAVE ANYONE TO CONSULT WITH ANYMORE.
HE ALWAYS SPOTTED ANY MISTAKES AND GAVE ME INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO CORRECT THEM.
MON
TUE
February

ARE YOU ALWAYS HERE AT THIS TIME?
I have to take an overseas call
YACHI-KUN.
I ARRIVED EARLY TODAY BY COINCI-DENCE.
ARE THOSE...
THE DOCU-MENTS FOR TOKUYAMA?
ISN'T IT HARD FOR YOU TO WORK ON THAT BY YOURSELF?
IT'S AL-READY BEEN DECIDED, SO—
CAN I DRINK SOME COFFEE WITH YOU?
...
GO AHEAD

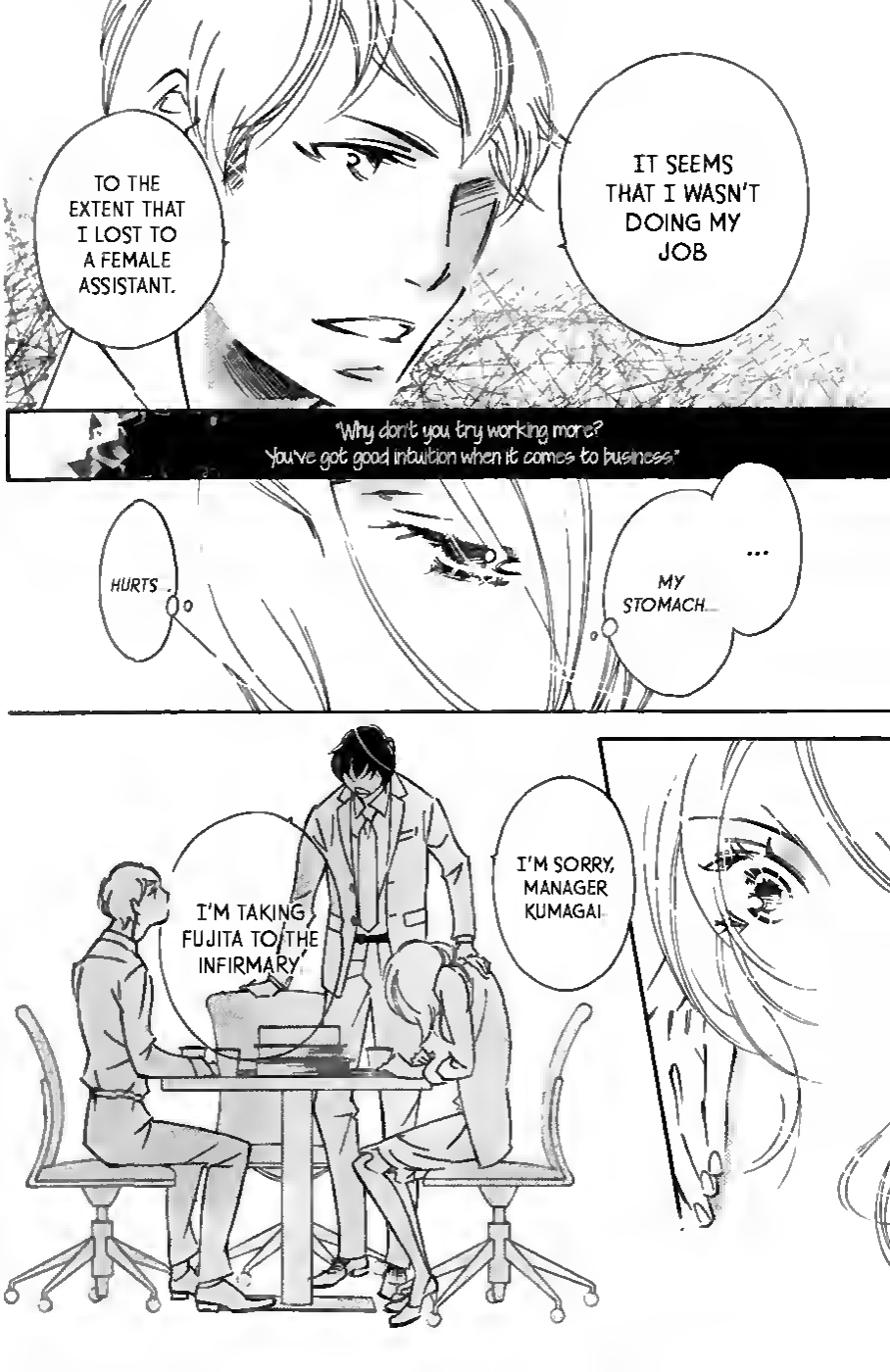
BY THE WAY, ONE OF MY CLIENTS PRAISED YOU, FUJITA.
ONE OF YOUR CLIENTS?
WHENEVER A CLIENT COMES TO VISIT US, WHOEVER'S FREE IS SUPPOSED TO BRING OVER SOME TEA, RIGHT?
YOU WOULD NOTICE BEFORE ANYONE ELSE AND BRING OVER TEA AND SNACKS.
I LIKE BOTH GREEN TEA AND SNACKS.
THEY SAID IT MADE THEM REALLY HAPPY
AND THAT IT LEFT A STRONG IMPRESSION ON THEM.
THEY ALSO SAID YOU WERE THE REASON THEY DECIDED TO DO BUSINESS WITH OUR COMPANY.
YOU'RE REALLY AMAZ-ING, FUJITA
Stop it.
HAVING SUCH AN AMAZING CO-WORKER
MAKES ME THINK, "I HAVE TO WORK HARDER AS WELL."
"Are you happy you won against me?"
IT MOTIVATES ME.
I don't want to hear it

BUT... DON'T MEN
HATE IT WHEN A WOMAN IS BETTER THAN THEM AT THEIR JOB?
Stop it.

Yachi-kun was just trying to encourage me as a fellow co-worker who was concerned.

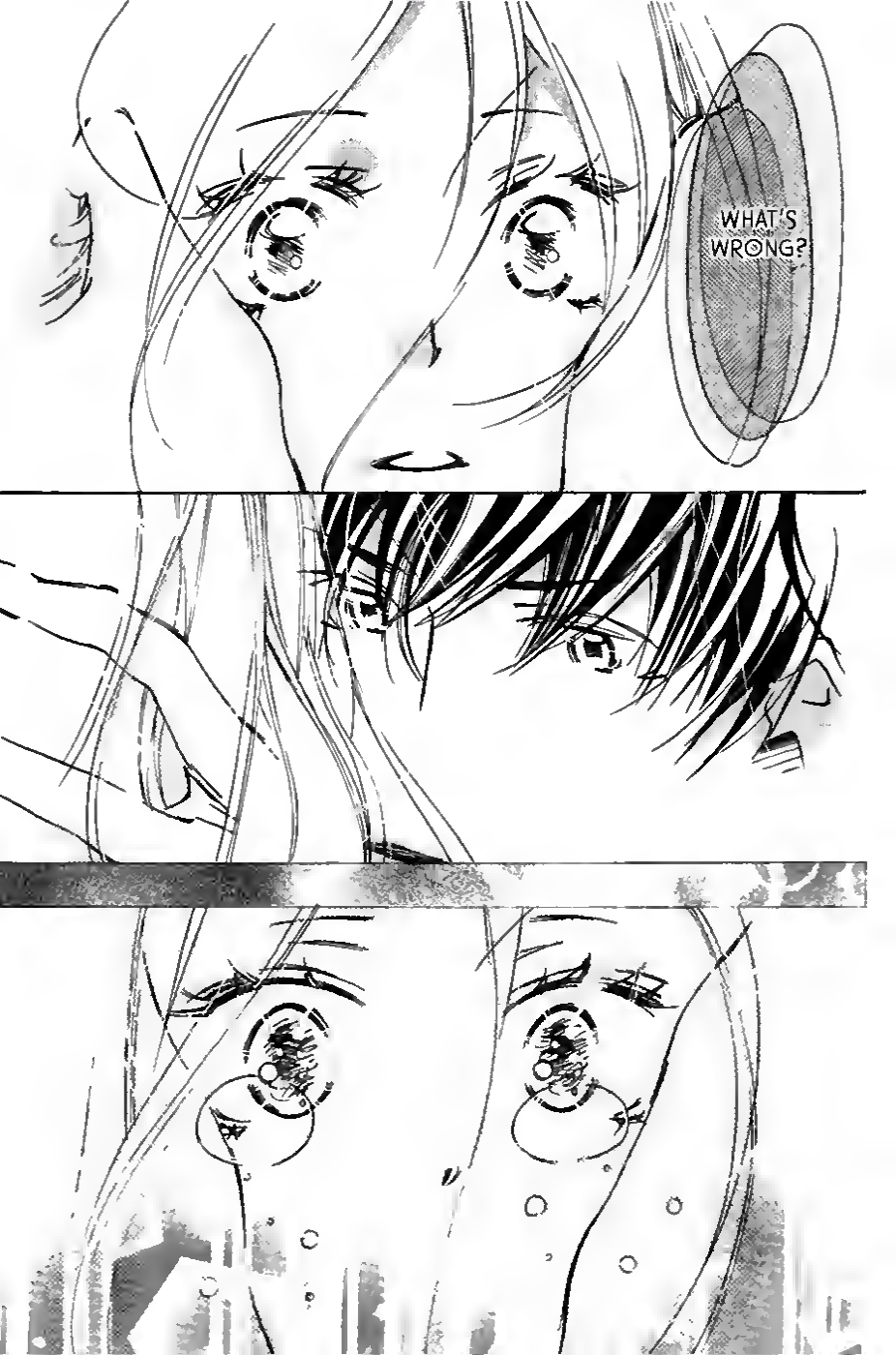
I'm the worst.
...AND SO,
I HAVE DECIDED THAT ENTRUSTING THE TOKUYAMA INDUSTRIES PROJECT TO A YOUNGSTER ALONE IS A LITTLE BIT TOO MUCH
I HOPE THE THREE OF YOU WILL PROMPTLY TAKE OVER
SO I'LL BE ASSIGNING YACHI ON IT
FUJITA, WORK WITH KUMAGAI-KUN AS WELL
I'm saved.
THANK GOODNESS
I'M NOT ON MY OWN ANYMORE

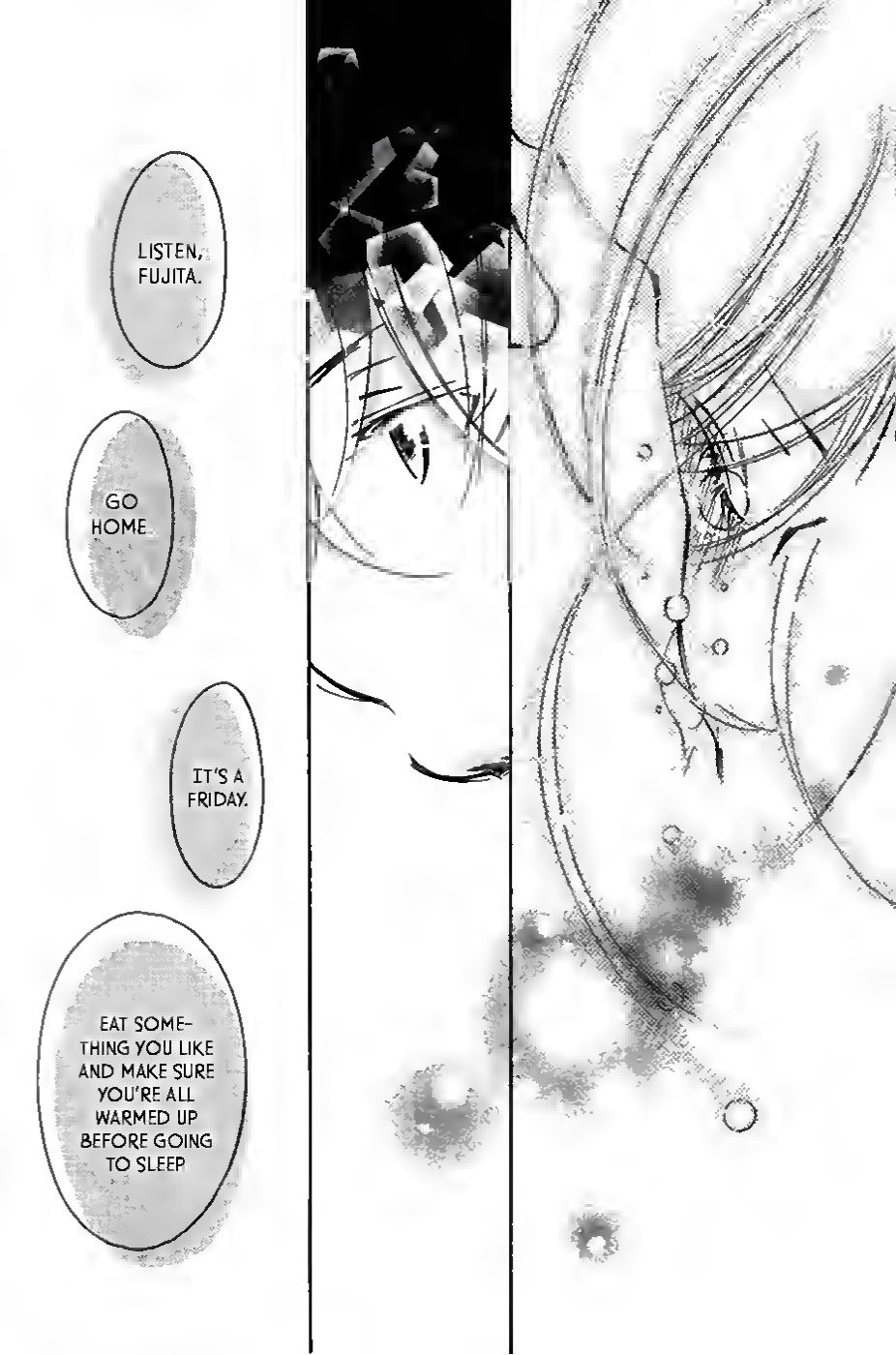
The ex-boyfriend she took the job from
The person she vented her anger on the other day
I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU, MANAGER KUMAGAI
REALLY TENSE ...
prich prich
BUT THIS IS...
EVEN IF HE SAID TO TAKE OVER, THERE'S NOTHING TO DO ON MY END
TOKUYAMA DOESN'T LIKE ME,
SO I WON'T GO GREET THEM
My fingertips are freezing...
Is it cold?
I wonder why... everything's spinning
HUH?
DIZZY


TO THE EXTENT THAT I LOST TO A FEMALE ASSISTANT.
IT SEEMS THAT I WASN'T DOING MY JOB
"Why don't you try working more? You've got good intuition when it comes to business."
HURTS
...
MY STOMACH...
I'M TAKING FUJITA TO THE INFIRMARY
I'M SORRY, MANAGER KUMAGAI

YOU SHOULD SAY SOMETHING IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL!!
YACHI-KUN.
I FEEL FI-
LET'S GO.
YOU'VE BEEN GROWING PALE EVER SINCE YOU SAT DOWN.
DIDN'T YOU NOTICE?
ME..?
DID YOU REALLY NOT NOTICE?

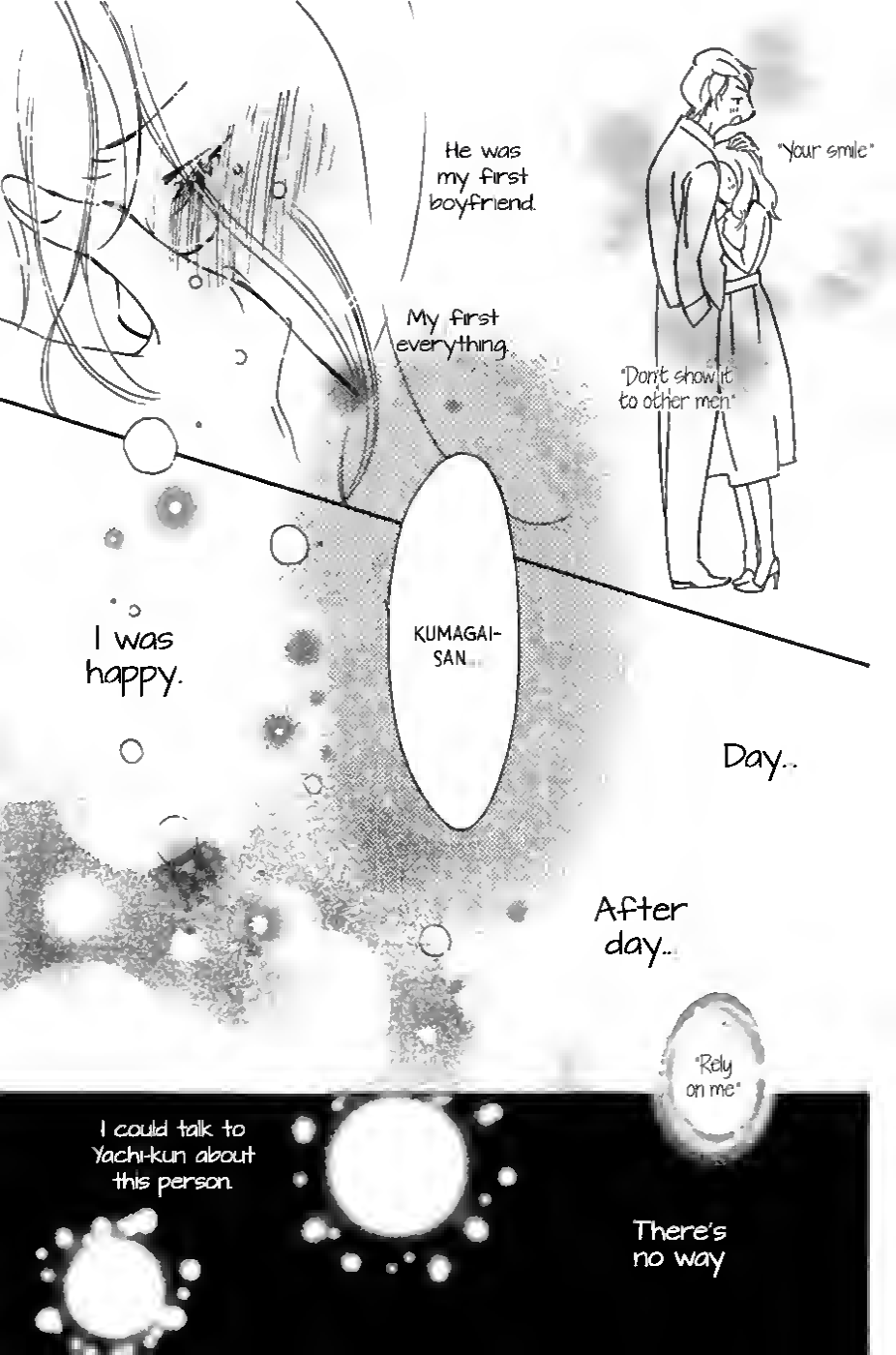
YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING PALE RECENTLY
IT WAS HARD TO BRING UP BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO SOUND LIKE I WAS SPEAKING ILL OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS, BUT...
AREN'T YOU PUSHING YOURSELF TOO HARD?
ARE YOU SLEEPING AND EATING PROPERLY?
EATING...
Now that I think about it...
When was the last time I ate something?
FUJITA.

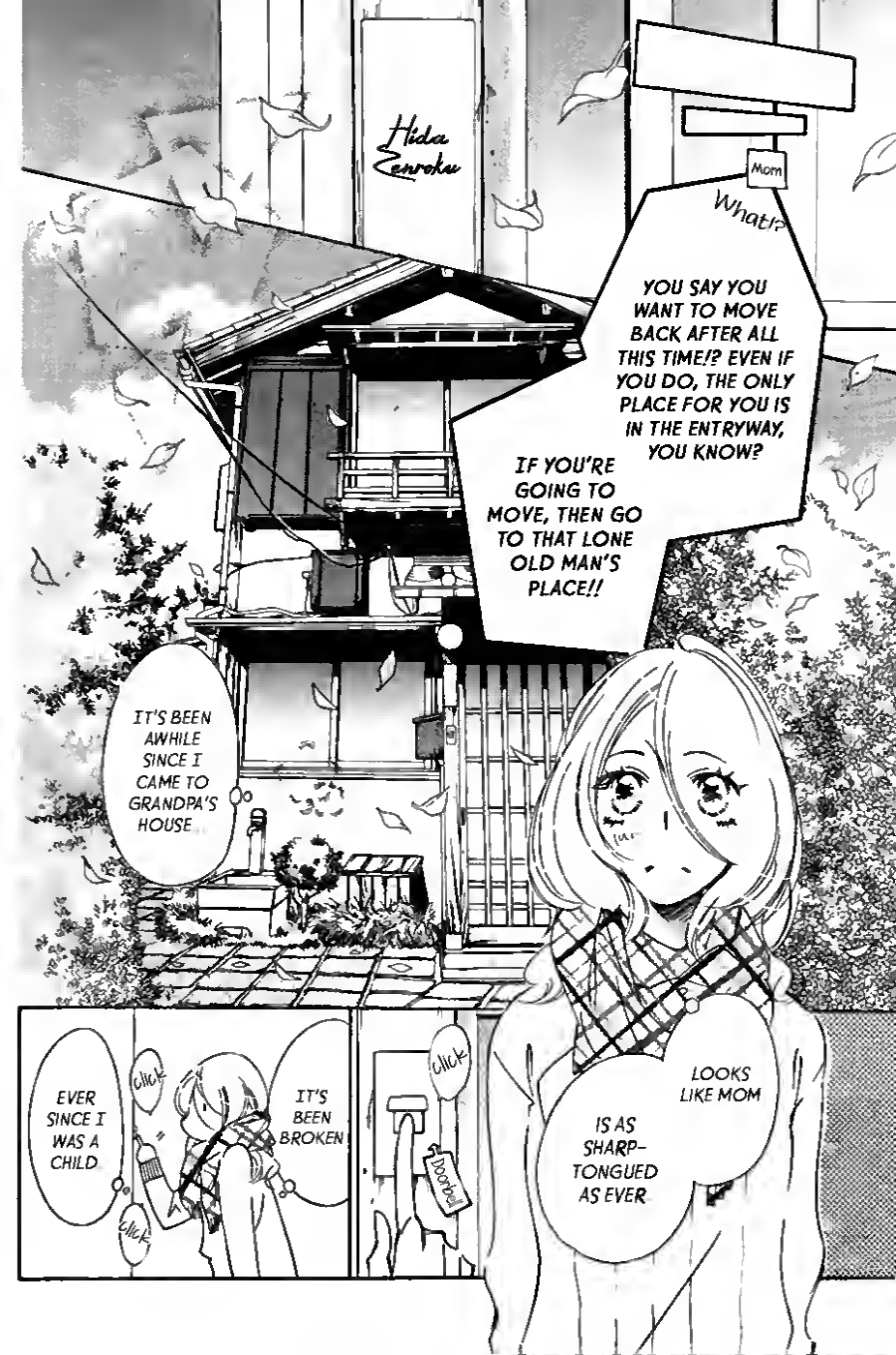

WHAT'S WRONG?


LISTEN, FUJITA.
GO HOME.
IT'S A FRIDAY.
EAT SOMETHING YOU LIKE AND MAKE SURE YOU'RE ALL WARMED UP BEFORE GOING TO SLEEP

YOU CAN RELY ON ME. WE'RE PEERS AFTER ALL.
ALSO,
IF YOU DO THAT,
I'M SURE EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY.
RELY ON YOU.
AND I'LL ALSO
Just as Yachi-kun advised, I left behind everything except what I needed, and went home.
a rice ball
Jelly drink and

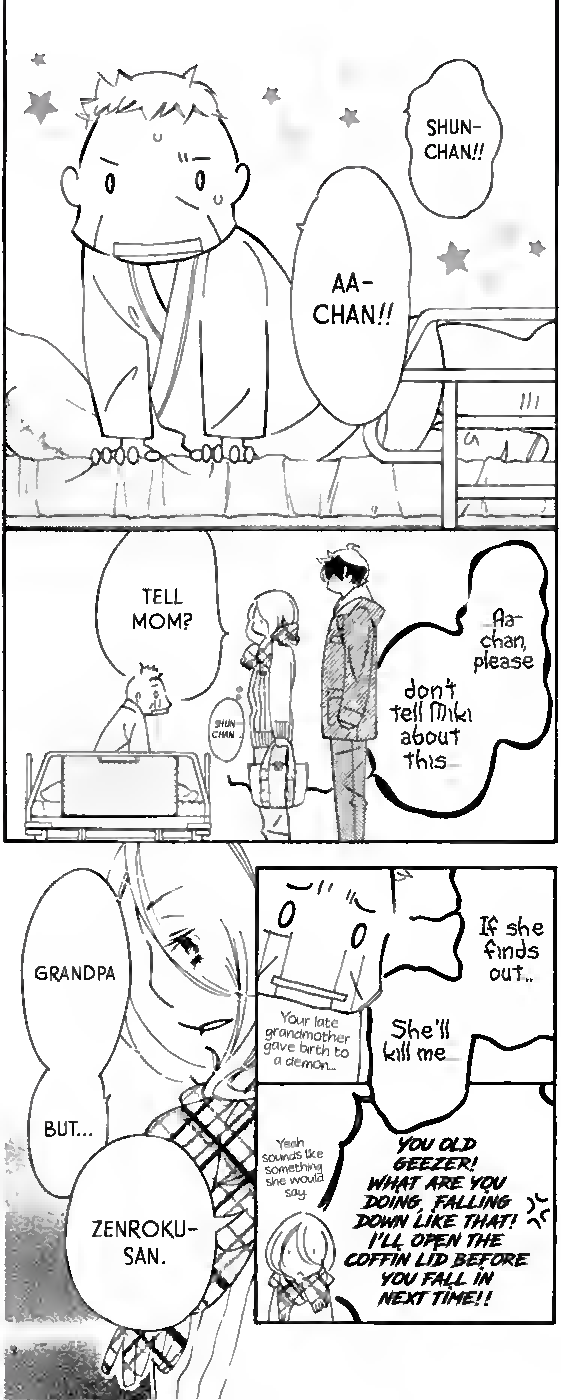
I'll drink a little bit at a time so my stomach doesn't get upset.
slurp
slurp
After that,
one after another,
My tears spilled over
I drank as much water as I could
"Kumaga san"
"Kuma? huh? That's cute"
"So Fujita, your first name is"
"Ayuma?"
T/N: Japanese people use kanji for their names, and usually the same kanji can be read in different ways. That's why he assumes her name is read "Ayuma"
"A lot of people get it wrong."
"I see. Then I'll call you Ayu too"
"Ayu is fine."
Sob
T/N: Kuma means bear in Japanese


He was my first boyfriend.
My first everything.
"Your smile"
"Don't show it to other men."
I was happy.
KUMAGAI-SAN...
Day..
After day..
"Rely on me."
I could talk to Yachi-kun about this person.
There's no way


Hida Zenroku
Mom
What!?
YOU SAY YOU WANT TO MOVE BACK AFTER ALL THIS TIME!? EVEN IF YOU DO, THE ONLY PLACE FOR YOU IS IN THE ENTRYWAY, YOU KNOW?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO MOVE, THEN GO TO THAT LONE OLD MAN'S PLACE!!
IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE I CAME TO GRANDPA'S HOUSE
LOOKS LIKE MOM IS AS SHARP-TONGUED AS EVER
click
Doorbell
IT'S BEEN BROKEN
click
click
EVER SINCE I WAS A CHILD

GRANDPA?
HE'S SWEEPING THE YARD.
rustle
rustle

FUJITA...?
HUH...?
YA... YACHI-KUN!?
WE'RE FISHING PARTNERS, SO HE ENTRUSTED ME WITH THE KEY TO HIS HOUSE.
ZENROKU-SAN BROKE HIS LEG A WHILE BACK AND HE'S BEEN HOSPITALIZED EVER SINCE.
TY HOSPITAL


SHUN-CHAN!!
AA-CHAN!!
TELL MOM?
SHUN-CHAN
Aa-chan, please
don't tell Miki about this
GRANDPA
BUT...
ZENROKU-SAN.
Your late grandmother gave birth to a demon...
Yeah sounds like something she would say
If she finds out..
She'll kill me
YOU OLD GEEZER! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, FALLING DOWN LIKE THAT! I'LL OPEN THE COFFIN LID BEFORE YOU FALL IN NEXT TIME!!

FUJITA!!
LET'S GO BORROW A FRUIT KNIFE TOGETHER
THIS IS A GET-WELL GIFT FROM YOUR NEIGHBOR, TANAKA-SAN.
PERFECT TIMING THE TWO OF YOU SHOULD HAVE SOME TOO.
DON'T GET TOO MAD AT ZENROKU-SAN
EVEN SO,
IT'S TRUE THAT YOUR MOM SOUNDS REALLY SCARY, BUT
I'M SURE HE DIDN'T WANT TO WORRY ANYONE EITHER.
TROUBLING SOMEONE WHO ISN'T A FAMILY MEMBER LIKE YOU TO TAKE CARE OF THE HOSPITALIZATION AND OPERATION FORMS
THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S OKAY
I DON'T MIND AT ALL.

I'M SORRY!
I COMPLETELY ABANDONED THE MEETING ON FRIDAY AND WENT HOME!!
EVEN BEFORE THAT!!
IN THE MORNING THAT DAY,
I VENTED MY ANGER ON YOU!!
EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE DONE NOTHING BUT HELP ME OUT.
I'M REALLY SORRY!!
I DON'T HAVE ANY RELATIVES I CAN RELY ON IN TOKYO, SO I'M REALLY GRATEFUL.
I'M FROM AICHI, YOU SEE.
ZENROKU-SAN ISN'T JUST MY FISHING PARTNER HE'S BEEN TAKING GOOD CARE OF ME.
...RELY?
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, MY GRAND-PA IS THE ONE WHO'S RELYING ON HIM RIGHT NOW...
Does being relied upon make him happy...?
What an eccentric person...

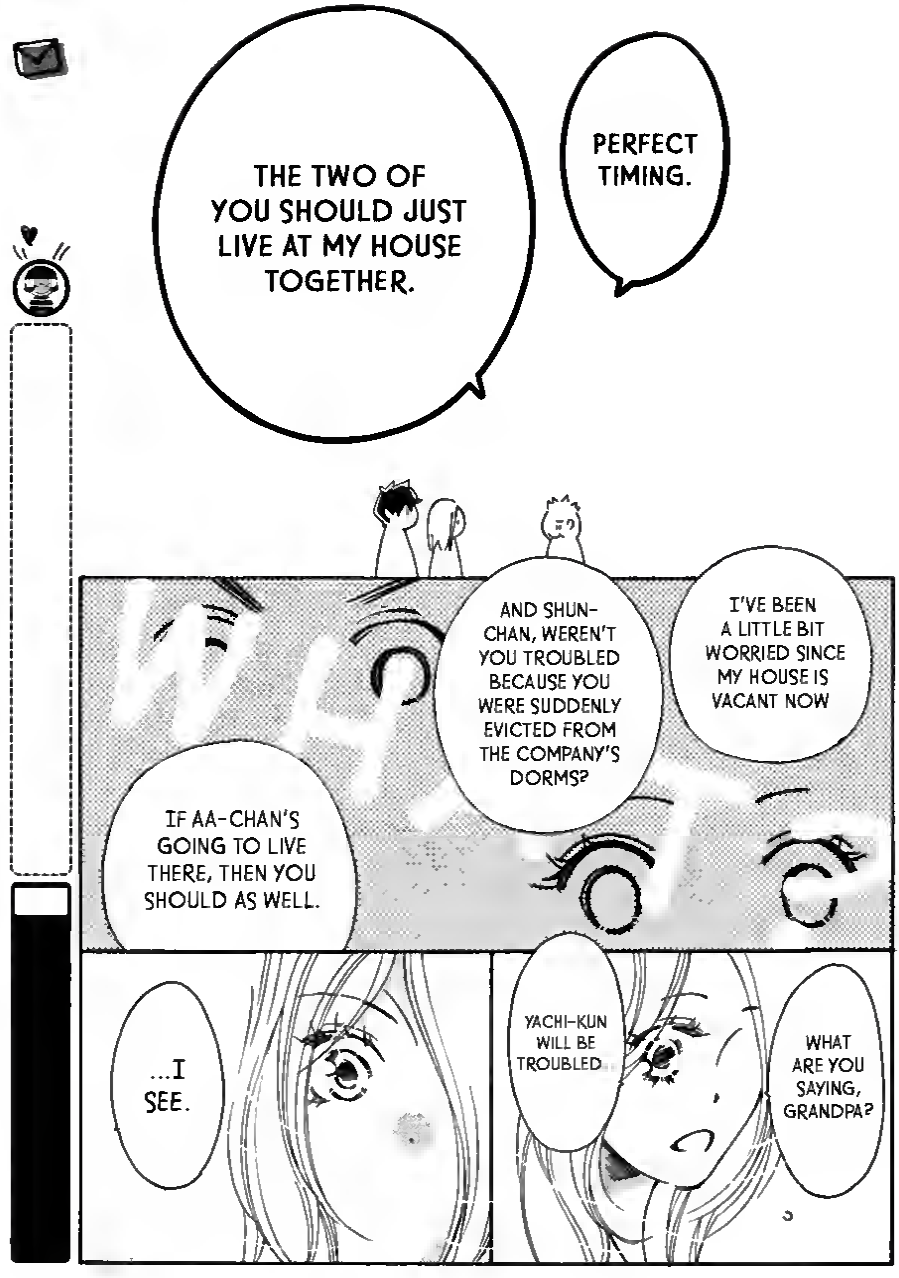
HUH?
FUJITA,
ISN'T A "THANK YOU" ENOUGH FOR ALL OF THAT?
HAVE YOU BEEN EATING WELL
SINCE THEN?
DID YOU SLEEP PROPERLY?

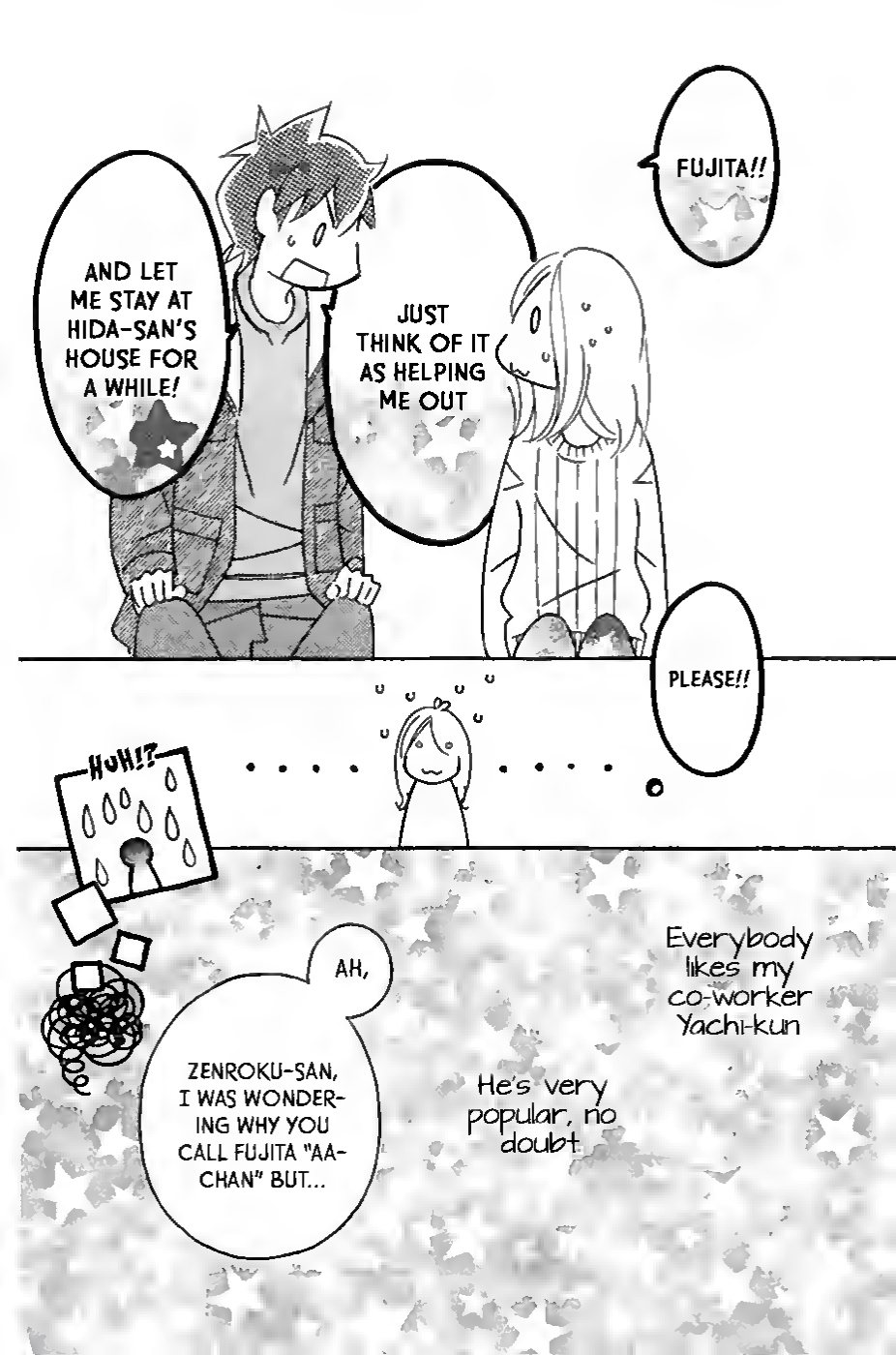
AFTER DOING THAT
SOMETHING CHANGED, DIDN'T IT?
It did.

Up until now, I didn't understand the reason why everyone liked Yachi-kun so much
HERE YOU GO, ZENROKU-SAN
HE'S GOOD...
...AT PEELING APPLES

T/N: He's speaking in a different dialect here
AH...
IS THAT YOUR HOME-TOWN'S DIALECT?
Zen-chan~
OH, ZEN-CHAN.
Nn. Yummy.
YOU'RE DIABETIC, AREN'T CHA*?
'CAREFUL OF HOW MUCH YA EAT
IT SLIPS OUT...
ZENROKU-SAN IS FROM NAGOYA TOO, SO
NICE.
IT'S KIND OF

THAT WAS MY FIRST TIME SEEING YOUR SMILE, FUJITA.
Yummy
crunch
crunch
I HEARD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO STAY
BY THE WAY, AA-CHAN


THE TWO OF YOU SHOULD JUST LIVE AT MY HOUSE TOGETHER.
PERFECT TIMING.
AND SHUN-CHAN, WEREN'T YOU TROUBLED BECAUSE YOU WERE SUDDENLY EVICTED FROM THE COMPANY'S DORMS?
I'VE BEEN A LITTLE BIT WORRIED SINCE MY HOUSE IS VACANT NOW
IF AA-CHAN'S GOING TO LIVE THERE, THEN YOU SHOULD AS WELL.
...I SEE.
YACHI-KUN WILL BE TROUBLED...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, GRANDPA?


FUJITA!!
JUST THINK OF IT AS HELPING ME OUT
AND LET ME STAY AT HIDA-SAN'S HOUSE FOR A WHILE!
PLEASE!!
. . . . . .
HUH!?
AH,
ZENROKU-SAN, I WAS WONDERING WHY YOU CALL FUJITA "AA-CHAN" BUT...
Everybody likes my co-worker Yachi-kun
He's very popular, no doubt

I...

still don't know anything about Yachi-kun.

TO BE CONTINUED.